

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Hu Yaobang's Visit to Japan
- Sino-Soviet Relations in the 1950s
- China Protects Its Wildlife



LETTERS

Deng's Statement on Reform Incisive

Deng Xiaoping's article "On the Reform of the System of Party and State Leadership" (issues No. 40 and 41) is substantial, penetrating and easily understandable. I am very interested in some of the measures and arrangements it dwelled upon. Your state system is different from ours. But, no matter in what country, people do hope that fundamental agreement can be achieved among the interests of the state, the collective and the individual. They hope that there will be a government which will listen attentively to the voice of the masses and concern itself with the welfare of the people and act in their interests. In reality, however, despite the efforts people all over the world made, local wars have never stopped.

Deng put forward three points in his article: catch up with the developed capitalist countries economically, fully practise people's democracy in the political sphere and train more excellent talent. I think this is very cogent. Your country has many strong points which others do not share.

Hiromichi Kawamoto
Yamaguchi, Japan

Police Help People in China

I read with great interest the article "Between the Police and

the People" (issue No. 21). China's public security is indeed noteworthy. While reading, I really did not know how to praise your country, which makes great efforts to help its people. When I read that in China people have the right to expose the mistakes of policemen, I was really surprised. It's unbelievable that lost handbags and other things could easily be recovered through the public security system. This is probably rare in other countries. Countries like China can stand as great examples. Moreover, China is improving in every aspect. I am satisfied with your Sixth Five-Year Plan, 1981-85. You have already arranged everything for the stability of the country. The Chinese Government is truly worthy of praise.

Ntumba-Sasa
Kinshasa, Zaire

Superpowers' Control Over the World Exposed

I appreciate your exposure of the two superpowers' intention to control the world, their practice of helping one country to fight another and how they menace international peace. Chad and the Middle East are two examples. We African people feel glad that you denounced the two superpowers at the UN General Assembly and its Security Council.

Lahai D.S. Kamara
Makeni, Sierra Leone

Interesting Book Series

I have read the two book series, *China Today* and *China and the*

World, which are published by *Beijing Review*, and find them interesting. Reading them gives one a chance to see how far China has developed. One can also get an idea about how China deals with other countries.

"A Glimpse of China" (in the French edition) is an apt title, and the articles in it are interesting. They give a general idea about the Chinese people's life, habits and customs. As you know, habits and customs are the dearest things to a nation.

Finally, I would suggest you change your cover to thicker paper. I also hope that you will give more emphasis to the "Culture & Science" column.

Haddany Ahlam
Morocco

Thank you for sending me the book series; I think they are very interesting. Like the other publications I receive and the things I hear on Radio Beijing, they help me to better understand China.

I suggest that you expand the article on the minority languages in China (in the Spanish edition, issue No. 32) and publish it in instalments, for I am interested in the subject. I hope you will pay more attention to reports about education in China.

Miguel Ramon Bauset
Alboraia, Spain

We only heard of your book series, such as *China and the World*, but could not find them here. I hope I will be able to read these books.

I think *Beijing Review* is very impressive. Reading the weekly makes me want to visit your country in order to better understand it.

Abdelkader Belhayara
Es-senia, Algeria

For Friendship

I write to express my personal appreciation, that of my family and that of the Board of the Edgar Snow Memorial Fund, Inc., University of Missouri-Kansas City, for the sincere and rewarding page devoted to Mary Clark Dimond in your August 15 issue ["Mary Clark Dimond," issue No. 33]. The time is still yet so brief since we lost her and the page in your magazine is a form of therapy.

Edmunds Grey Dimond
Kansas City, MO., USA

Exciting new release

DREAM JOURNEYS TO CHINA

Poems by Stephen S. N. Liu

This astounding collection of 56 poems chronicles a voyage in the mind of a Chinese man living abroad. To the author's lonely and exiled soul, both the memories of the past and the dream-world become soothing mirages in the remote North American deserts.

Written in English, this book is a must for poetry lovers everywhere.

Published by New World Press

Distributed by China Publications Centre (Guoji Shudian)
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

BEIJING REVIEW

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing
The People's Republic of China

Vol. 26, No. 47 November 21, 1983

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Distributed by China Publications
Centre (GUOJI SHUDIAN),

P. O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):

Australia A.\$12.00 USA...US\$13.00

New Zealand..NZ.\$14.00 UK.....£6.80

Canada Can.\$15.00

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Hu Yaobang to Visit Japan

Coinciding with the fifth anniversary of the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship, General Secretary Hu Yaobang's visit to Japan next week will provide new impetus to the friendly relations between the people, particularly the young, of the two nations (p. 4).

Sino-Soviet Relations Just After Liberation

The rapport between China and the Soviet Union in the 1950s was sometimes marred by big-nation chauvinism and national egoism on the part of the Soviet Union. This eventually led to the split we see today. In his memoirs, veteran diplomat Wu Xiuquan vividly recalls what happened at the time (p. 16).

Aid to Other Third World Countries

China's foreign aid projects have been well received because they require smaller investments, yield quicker results and render direct service to the local people. Since 1980, 402 projects have been undertaken in 77 countries (p. 8).

China's Economic Situation Is Encouraging

China's economic situation is encouraging in agriculture, industry, capital construction, retail market, prices of consumer goods, resident income and foreign trade, an official with statistics bureau said last week. While affirming these achievements, he also pointed out the problems that need to be solved (p. 8).

China's Wildlife Conservation

The growing number of endangered animals and plants in the world has aroused widespread attention. A special feature looks at China's wildlife heritage, its efforts in building nature reserves and its co-operation with international conservation organizations (p. 23).

China Opposes Arms Race in Space

China has called for a halt to the US and Soviet arms race in outer space and for the conclusion of an agreement banning chemical weapons (p. 13).



The abundance of wildlife in a nature reserve.
Woodcut by Zhou Xiqin

Hu Yaobang's visit to Japan

Hu Yaobang's visit to Japan, November 23-30, will be the first time that the Party General Secretary has visited a country with a different social system.

In Japan, the visit has long been anticipated; the invitation was first extended by Prime Minister Suzuki in 1982. After he became Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone also expressed his hope that the Chinese Party leader would visit Japan as early as possible.

Hu Yaobang's visit, coinciding with the fifth anniversary of the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship, will surely provide a new impetus for Sino-Japanese friendship, which has been improving steadily for the past 11 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The General Secretary and the Japanese Prime Minister will discuss the international situation and many other issues, taking a broad, long-term point of view. Both leaders will work together to find the best avenues for long-term steady development of Sino-Japanese relations, and for continued expansion of economic relations between the two nations. Hu will also meet with many Japanese government and public officials and deliver a speech to influential political figures.

His week-long, north-to-south itinerary, covering Tokyo and other major cities, will provide him with a good opportunity to

see the beautiful landscape of Japan and learn from the experience of the Japanese people in the economy and other fields — experience which is useful to China.

In the ongoing socialist modernization drive, the Chinese people are working with the single idea of overcoming backwardness in the nation's economy and culture. China abounds in natural resources while Japan has advanced science and technology. There are many ways in which the two nations can learn from and complement each other. It is true that we still have difficulties in our economic development, but we will not be discouraged, because our people, following Mao Zedong's advice, have become accustomed to taking a long view of things. China's steady advance towards modernization will create increasingly favourable conditions for expanding co-operation between the two countries.

China follows an independent foreign policy. Together with other peace-loving countries, China fights against hegemonism in order to safeguard world peace. We are willing to maintain friendly relations with all countries on the basis of the Five Principles for Peaceful Coexistence. The Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship solemnly proclaims that both sides will not seek hegemony and will oppose the attempt by any other countries to establish

hegemony. The friendship between China and Japan is not only in the interests of the people of both countries; it also means much to the peace and stability of Asia and the Pacific region.

During his stay in Japan, General Secretary Hu will meet with young people from all walks of life. In a speech to them, he will introduce a good Chinese friend, Wang Zhaoguo, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League.

Young people of both China and Japan will inherit and strengthen the Sino-Japanese ties of friendship. Those who grew up in the peaceful postwar environment will soon assume a leading role in their countries, while those born today will come of age by the turn of the century. China and Japan have been on good terms for thousands of years, although there were also bitter lessons learnt through blood. This brings home to the young that if the two countries are friendly they will both prosper, and if they fight they will both suffer. Whether Sino-Japanese friendship can last through the generations depends on whether today's and tomorrow's young people can, through deeper understanding, fulfil this important task entrusted to them. It is our belief that General Secretary Hu's visit will usher in a new era of friendship between the two peoples, as well as between the youth of both countries.

— *International Editor Mu Youlin*

A great man's epitaph

The tomb of Li Dazhao, one of the founders of the Communist Party of China, was completed and opened to the public on October 29, the 94th anniversary of the birth of this great pioneer of the Chinese communist movement.

Hu Yaobang, Peng Zhen and other Party and government leaders, as well as 500 people from all walks of life, attended the inauguration ceremony at the site in the western suburbs of Beijing.

Next to Li Dazhao's grave is that of his wife, Zhao Renlan. On the front of the 1.9-metre high, 4.02-metre wide monument of black marble is an inscription by Deng Xiaoping. "Eternal glory to Li Dazhao, a pioneer of the communist movement and great Marxist." On the back of the monument is the epitaph by the CPC Central Committee, which eulogizes Li's loyalty to the cause of the Chinese people's liberation, his faith in Marxism and his confidence in the future of the proletarian revolution.

Li Dazhao was introduced to socialist ideology and Marxist theory in 1913 when he was studying at Waseda University in Japan. By 1917, he had come to believe in Marxism, and became one of China's earliest Marxists and Communists.

In 1920, he founded the Research Institute of Marxism and the Communist Group in Beijing. Through his influence, many young people accepted Marxism, and some were noted



activists in the early days of the Chinese Communist Party.

After the founding of the Communist Party of China in 1921, Li Dazhao directed work in northern China on behalf of the Central Committee.

In 1922, he was delegated by the Party to talk with Dr. Sun Yat-sen in Shanghai on co-operation between the Communist Party and the Kuomintang. He made great contributions to the establishment of the national revolutionary united front and to the realization of the first Communist-Kuomintang co-operation.

Li Dazhao also worked in Beijing University as head of the university's library in 1918, and later as an economics professor. He also sponsored or edited some progressive periodicals which played an important role in promoting the democratic revolutionary movement against imperialism and feudalism. As a scholar and revolutionary of noble character,

Li Dazhao was held in high esteem.

Li Dazhao was arrested by the warlord Zhang Zuolin in 1927 in Beijing. He showed unyielding heroism in court and in prison. On April 28 the same year, Li Dazhao was hanged at the age of 37.

In 1933, Li's relatives and many notables arranged a memorial service for him. Despite the reign of white terror, students, workers and citizens in great numbers took part in the ceremony, which turned into a powerful demonstration. Some revolutionary organizations of Beijing citizens inscribed a memorial tablet for Li Dazhao and buried it with his coffin. It was not excavated until the tomb was built for him this year. The two persons who wrote and inscribed the epitaph are still living today.

Li Dazhao wrote many articles during his life, and Lu Xun, China's great contemporary proletarian writer, once

wrote a preface for his selected works. But none of his books was published until 1959, when *Selected Works of Li Dazhao* appeared in print. In 1981, another of his books, *Poems and Prose of Li Dazhao*, was also published.

China's economy picking up

Production has increased in many sectors of China's economy since the beginning of this year, although it has not stimulated business as much as had been hoped, said Xu Gang, deputy director and spokesman of the State Statistical Bureau, last week. He detailed the following seven areas of improvement:

Agriculture. Grain output is expected to increase by more than 3 per cent over last year. Cotton output will be up by more than 5 per cent, and sugar crops, pork, beef, mutton, fowl and eggs will also increase. However, oil-bearing crops, tobacco, jute and bluish dogbane will decrease a little, due to planned reductions in production and acreage.

Industry. In the first 10 months, industrial output fulfilled 87.5 per cent of plans for the year, 10.5 per cent more than in the same period in 1982. Energy production was satisfactory, achieving a 6.7 per cent increase over the corresponding 1982 period. Light industrial output increased 8.1 per cent. Production of items in great demand increased by a wide margin. Overall, economic results from industrial production have improved.

Capital Construction. Decentralization of capital funds has been corrected to some extent. From January to September,

50.1 per cent of investment was controlled under the state budget, up from last year's 47.6 per cent. The proportion of energy and transportation investment was up from 29.4 per cent to 38.1 per cent, and construction on key state projects was speeded up.

Retail Market. In the first 10 months, the turnover from retail sales of disposable goods increased 10 per cent over the same 1982 period. Of this, food and daily necessities registered a large increase. Durable goods continued to sell well.

Prices of Consumer Goods. The prices of grain and fuel remained steady. The prices of synthetic cloth, cigarettes, liquor, tea, radios, wrist-watches, colour TV sets and washing machines went down. Non-staple foodstuffs, fresh vegetables, aquatic products and cotton cloth cost 2.9 per cent more.

Resident Income. Due to the

rise in pay and the employment increase among urban workers, the total wages paid from January to September rose 6.4 per cent. The average peasants' income increased 8.9 per cent, through selling agricultural and sideline products to state-run stores and collective co-ops.

Imports and Exports. In the first 10 months, China's imports and exports increased 10.1 per cent over the corresponding 1982 period, resulting in a surplus of 2.110 million yuan. There were also more finished industrial products exported, as compared with last year.

But in the first 10 months of economic development, there were two problems which merit our attention, Xu Gang added. One was that investment in capital construction was still booming, the other was the economy has not been stimulated as much as planners had hoped.



Another good harvest of cotton in western Shandong.

Nationwide audit gets under way

A nationwide audit of financial affairs in state-run enterprises and government institutions began last month in accordance with the decision of the State Council.

A State Council circular, approving a report on the campaign submitted by the Ministry of Finance, says the audit is absolutely essential for balancing revenues and expenditures and combating economic offences.

The audit will focus on tax evasion, inappropriate tax reduction, unauthorized withholding of profits, illegal appropriation of capital construction funds; indiscriminate issuing of bonuses, overtime pay and subsidies; illicit division of publicly owned products and waste; corruption, speculation and bribery; and embezzlement and theft of state property.

While dealing mainly with current problems, the audit may uncover certain serious economic offences from the past.

Some economic offences have been discovered this year. The income of industrial enterprises in Guangdong and Yunnan Provinces and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region was lower in the first eight months this year than in the same period last year due to irregular practices and poor management. In Tianjin many serious economic offences have been discovered in eight factories since the nationwide audit began. The electric welding rod factory there illegally withheld 800,000 yuan in profits and evaded 200,000 yuan in industrial and commercial taxes in the first eight months of this year.

This audit will help increase income and decrease spending in state enterprises and government institutions, and enforce financial discipline. It will also help to check unhealthy tendencies in society and advance the struggle against economic crimes.

The Ministry of Finance therefore instructed that the audit must be conducted in a most serious manner, and an irresponsible attitude towards it must be avoided. Law-breaking units must not be allowed to benefit themselves economically; those who have committed serious offences must bear responsibility and be dealt with according to law.

Relics-smuggling case uncovered

A ring smuggling cultural relics out of China has been uncovered in Luoyang, and many antiquities from the Shang Dynasty (c. 1600-1100 B.C.) and later, which the smugglers intended to take abroad, have been recovered.

Sources quoted museum experts as saying there were more than 1,600 relics, some 800 pearl and jade objects and more than 1,700 ancient coins. Among the treasures under government protection were a jade ornament from the Western Zhou Dynasty (c. 1100-771 B.C.), a jade pendant with tiger design from the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.), two-handled porcelain jar from the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.), a Northern Qi Dynasty (550-557) yellow glazed vase decorated with paintings of dancers and a gilded bronze Buddha from the Tang Dynasty (618-907).

Luoyang was the capital of nine ancient dynasties, and

many historical relics are scattered among the local people. Since 1982, two smugglers from Aomen (Macao), Su Lun and He Linfa, have travelled through Luoyang and other ancient cities, posing as tourists or merchants to illegally acquire antiques at very low prices. Another of the principal offenders was Huang Guizhang, a former worker at a commune-run factory in Guangxi, who was found guilty of embezzlement earlier. The three smugglers worked together, setting up three contact points and five places for hiding relics. Some local people were also involved in the case.

Investigation of the ring went on for the past three months, after the Luoyang public security bureau received complaining letters from the masses. All the criminals have been arrested, and the case is being tried in a local court.

A new post office being built in Beijing

A post office with the technology of the 80s is under construction in Beijing. It will be a centre for postal exchange between China and other countries in the world.

Now the post offices in Beijing handle mail from 92 trains and 55 airplanes, both domestic and international, each day. They distribute newspapers and magazines to 5,000 cities and towns in China, exchange post with 2,000 cities and towns in the country, and have established postal communications with 104 countries and regions in the world. They handle one-tenth of all of China's mail, and one-fifth of the total distribution of newspapers and

magazines — 31 times what was handled in the early 50s. However, the office space has only doubled during this period.

When completed, the new post office will handle 30 million pieces of mail each day, a 4.1-fold increase, from 184 trains and 900 postal trucks. It will also sort 250,000 bags of mail a day. One or two days will be cut from the time it now takes to deliver domestic and international mail.

Covering an area of 70,000 square metres, the new post office will cost 80 million yuan. The project will be completed in two stages, comprising six sections including a sorting centre, a counter to handle newspapers and magazines, a conveyance room and a control room. The two stages of construction will be completed in 1986 and 1988 respectively.

China aids third world countries

China concluded 18 foreign-aid agreements in the first half of this year, 11 of which involved technical co-operation projects in agriculture and light and textile industries. In the same period, 19 more projects undertaken during the past three years were completed.

Since 1980, China has undertaken 402 projects for 13 more countries in addition to the 64 already receiving aid from China.

These projects include farms, water conservancy works, power stations, textile mills, sugar refineries, chemical fertilizer plants, oil refineries, highways, docks and stadiums. Construction has been speeded up through more efficient prepara-

tions and better management. Ninety-seven projects have been completed and put into operation since 1980.

China-aided projects are welcomed by the people of the countries concerned because they require smaller investments and yield quicker economic results. For instance, the Mulungu Textile Mill in Zambia has turned out 4.57 million metres of cotton cloth since it began trial production a year and a half ago. Its products won a silver cup at the Zambian International Trade Fair, and were praised by President Kaunda.

Once completed, many projects have changed from foreign aid to technical co-operation programmes, at the request of the recipient countries. China has participated in 103 co-operation projects over the past three years, helping the recipient countries solve technical problems and improve management, and supplying them with parts, accessories and the know-how to overhaul and renew equipment.

In recent years, China has also developed economic co-operation with other third world countries, such as contracting for construction projects, labour services, joint ventures, co-operative production and exploitation of resources. According to available statistics, 991 contracts for construction and labour services, valued at US \$1.84 billion, have been signed since 1979.

China now has 42 contracting corporations undertaking construction projects abroad. More than 30,000 workers have been sent overseas to fulfil the contracts.

In co-operation with relevant UN organizations, China has also helped train large numbers

of professionals for other developing countries by running courses on public health, acupuncture, small hydropower stations, biogas, fresh-water fish breeding, silkworm breeding and rural development in these countries.

At the national conference on foreign aid held at the end of September, Premier Zhao Ziyang said, "China is a developing socialist country with limited financial and material resources. We should, however, do what we can to aid other third world countries. This is our unshirkable internationalist duty." He exhorted those sent abroad to sincerely serve the people there, and carry forward our fine traditions and good style of work.

E.F. Hill in China for his 22nd visit

The Chairman of the Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist) was welcomed on his 22nd visit to China by General Secretary Hu Yaobang.

"You are an old friend of the Chinese people," Hu told E.F. Hill at their meeting on Nov. 6. "Though we are meeting each other only for the first time, we are old friends as well as new acquaintances in terms of our relations."

Hu described relations between the Chinese and Australian Parties over the past 20 years as excellent and said he believed they would keep growing.

Hill, mentioning the great changes that have taken place in China, said he was glad to see China's socialist cause growing steadily. The Chinese people's enthusiasm is a source of great strength, he said.

The two leaders also discussed certain international issues. Hu said: "We hope the good relations between China and Australia would further expand."

Guyana is reassured of China's concern

Premier Zhao Ziyang has told Viola Burnham, President of Guyana's Women's Revolutionary Socialist Movement and wife of the President of Guyana, that the Chinese Government is concerned over the increasing tension in the Caribbean region.

Zhao, meeting on Nov. 9 with Mrs. Burnham, said China has maintained that all countries, large or small, are equal in international affairs.

No big power, he said, has the right to interfere in another state's affairs.

"We oppose big nations bullying small ones, or powerful nations oppressing weak ones," he said. "That is why China strongly condemns the United States for sending troops to Grenada and demands that the United States immediately withdraw those troops."

Mrs. Burnham came to China for a goodwill visit at the invitation of the All-China Women's Federation.

Zhao said relations between China and Guyana are good, noting that strengthening unity and co-operation with the third world is the cornerstone of China's foreign policy.

"The peoples of the two countries have traditionally been friends, and both states share many common viewpoints," he said.

Zhao pledged continuous ef-

forts to strengthen and develop friendship and co-operation with Guyana.

Mrs. Burnham said Guyana has benefited from diplomatic relations with China. "We have learnt a lot in our current visit," she said, "especially about the Chinese people's spirit of self-reliance and their experience in making use of their national resources to create wealth for the country."

Asia, Pacific talks bring 32 co-op pacts

A meeting of 11 Asian and Pacific countries to discuss technical co-operation, the first of its kind held in China under the sponsorship of the United Nations, has resulted in 32 agreements being signed.

The conference, the Regional Intergovernmental Consultations for the Formulation and Implementation of Programmes for Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries, which was held in Beijing Nov. 1-7. It was attended by representatives from Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, as well as a number of UN organizations.

The 32 items of co-operation, including five multilateral regional agreements, covered projects in the fields of agriculture, processing of farm products, water conservation, handicrafts, fresh water fish breeding, mining, energy, building material production, and public health. The main forms of co-operation include training of personnel, technological study and exchanges of seeds and samples.

Most of the projects are small and economical, as well as being suited to the specific circumstances of the particular country.

Premier Zhao Ziyang, meeting with the representatives on Nov. 7, said South-South co-operation has great potential. Through co-operation, developing countries can increase their capability for self-reliance, which have far-reaching effects on the establishment of a new world economic order.

Zhao, stressed, however, that South-South co-operation did not mean South-North co-operation was unwanted. The developed countries, he said, should adopt a positive attitude towards South-North co-operation and global negotiations, in response to the call by the developing nations.

Such co-operation would benefit the developed countries as well as the developing countries, he said.

Chinese leaders attend Korean performance

A performance in Beijing of songs and dances by the Pyongyang Mansudae Art Troupe from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was attended on Nov. 8 by Chinese Party and state leaders, who later presented the Korean artists with a basket of flowers in the name of General Secretary Hu Yaobang.

The troupe, which presented a programme of vocal solos and choruses, dances and instrumental selections from Korea and China, was welcomed warmly.

During intermission, the Chi-



Peng Zhen, Ulanhu and other Chinese leaders gather on stage to congratulate the Korean artists on their successful performance.

nese leaders, among them Peng Zhen, Ulanhu, Deng Liqun and Hu Qili, met the leaders of the troupe and several leading actors. Peng praised the high artistic level and thoughtful contents of the performance.

"The Korean troupe has made great contributions to promoting understanding and furthering the friendship between our two countries," he said.

The troupe gave seven performances in Beijing before leaving for Xian, Shanghai, Tianjin, Shenyang and Dandong.

Xianggang policies set for next September

China will announce its policies and guidelines on Xianggang (Hongkong) no later than next September, says Qi Huaiyuan, Director of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department.

Asked at his weekly news briefing on Nov. 9 if China planned to change its stand regarding a deadline for Sino-British talks on the question of Xianggang, Qi said its position has not changed at all.

China hopes an agreement can be reached with Britain before next September, he said, but "if no agreement is reached by then, China will announce its own policies and guidelines unilaterally."

Lincoln descendant, writer meet Huang

Huang Hua, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, met American writer Anna Lincoln and her husband Adrian Lincoln, a descendant of the 16th US President Abraham Lincoln, on Nov. 12.

Huang told them he has long admired Abraham Lincoln, who

declared his famous proclamation freeing the slaves in 1863. He said he read the Emancipation Proclamation and other works by Lincoln when he was very young.

The Chinese Writers' Association gave a tea party in honour of the two American guests on Nov. 11, attended by noted Chinese writers, translators and researchers of American literature. The Lincolns in turn presented them with a portrait of Abraham Lincoln.



Sino-US Relations

A handful creates adverse current

RECENTLY US Democrat Senator Claiborne Pell and two of his colleagues put forward a draft resolution before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on "Taiwan's future." At the hearings on the draft resolution on Nov. 9, a leading member of the "Formosa Association for Public Affairs" (an organization dedicated to the "independence of Taiwan") and a director of the Asia Research Centre, which belongs to the new Right-wing Heritage Foundation, "testified" with false arguments and grossly interfered in China's internal affairs.

This draft resolution plays the same old tune, calling for a peaceful settlement of "Taiwan's future," "free from coercion and in a manner acceptable to the people of Taiwan." It also calls for conformity to the "act" adopted by Congress, apparently referring to the "Taiwan Relations Act" passed in 1979. The Chinese Government and people have refused to recognize this act, which interferes in China's internal affairs. As for the phrase "in a manner acceptable to the people of Taiwan," it is clear that some Americans are simply playing with words in an attempt to annex the Chinese territory of Taiwan and alienate it from China.

Pell, who claims to be concerned about "Taiwan's future,"

revealed his true intentions in his remarks at the end of the hearings, when he said "Taiwan does not belong to China" and "Taiwan is a country independent of China." He has shown he cares about nothing but his own viewpoint, which he has persisted in publicizing both in the past and today.

The committee hearing on the draft resolution was an anti-China farce staged by a few people in the United States. Pell was the only senator among the few people in the audience at the hearings. At a time when Sino-US relations have been improving through efforts by both sides and the leaders of the two countries are planning exchange visits, a handful of people are making anti-China remarks about Taiwan and trying to alienate it from the motherland. What are their motives? This is a matter requiring serious attention and vigilance by all.

Taiwan is part of China's territory and the people on Taiwan are part of the Chinese people, our kinsmen and compatriots. To bring about national reunification is the common aspiration of all 1,000 million Chinese people, including the 18 million on Taiwan. As for those dregs of society who seek power and wealth by

betraying their motherland and demanding the "independence of Taiwan," they represent neither the people of China nor the people on Taiwan. The reunification of Taiwan and the mainland is completely the internal affairs of the Chinese people and no one else has the right to interfere in it. The introduction of the draft resolution on "Taiwan's future" by a few US senators is itself a violation of international norms and an act of crude interference in China's internal affairs. It should be condemned strongly.

To speak frankly, there are always a handful of people in the United States who cling to imperialism and superpower hegemonism. They have always adopted a hostile attitude towards the Chinese people. They are dedicated to for ever keeping Taiwan as their unsinkable aircraft carrier, and to meet this end they continually place obstacles in the way of Sino-US relations. Whenever an opportunity arises, they make trouble, attempting to undermine relations between the two countries. This is an adverse current in the development of these relations. Although these people are only a tiny minority their wilful actions, if unchecked, can have a bad effect on Sino-US relations. This is something all those who cherish the development of these relations must pay particular attention to

— "Renmin Ribao" Commentary (Nov. 14)

After the show of US muscle flexing

THE fighting is now over in Grenada, and the US has begun to withdraw some of its invasion troops from the island. While Right-wing politicians in the United States talk gleefully about their victory in Grenada, another 18 dead and some 90 wounded are added to the casualties from the holocaust in Beirut.

US President Ronald Reagan has been praised for his "resolute attitude" in diplomatic manoeuvres, for his performance in glossing over the US act of aggression against a tiny country, and most of all, for his speedy overthrow of the Grenadian Government, thus nipping a "second Cuba" in the bud and eliminating the possible appearance of a Nicaragua-Cuba-Grenada triangle in the Central American and Caribbean region.

But even though events have developed according to the wishes of Washington, the conclusion remains to be seen.

Diplomatic Isolation

Disregarding all the accepted norms of international relations, the United States' brazen and bloody invasion of a sovereign state has left it in awkward isolation. Since the invasion, voices of disapproval have been raised in every corner of the world. Criticism from heads of government, protests from foreign ministries, debates in parliaments, opposition in the press and mass demonstrations all show that the US action is

very unpopular. The UN General Assembly resolution, adopted on Nov. 2 by an overwhelming majority, condemns the invasion and calls for an immediate pullout of foreign troops from the country.

Although some Caribbean countries stood behind the United States temporarily, with their concern about Soviet and Cuban influence in the area over-riding any misgivings they may have felt about the US action, the tradition of US military intervention in the region has always worried them, and they cannot be at ease if the US pursues these aggressive policies in the future. There have been too many US marine landings, too many subversions and too many occupations in the past century. Many Latin Americans contend that non-interference should be the most important principle in the hemisphere, and this assertion is mainly directed at the power to the north.

Furthermore, the events in Grenada show that the Reagan administration cannot tolerate a regime that is not to its liking, despite the lip service paid to peace. If some people still regard US policy in Central America and the Caribbean as uncertain and perplexing, the armed invasion of Grenada will help reveal its true nature. The United States has made it clear that in order to ensure its hegemony in the region, it would put aside all its statements about peace and resort to war without hesitation.

This method of handling

things will certainly alienate most Latin American countries, and fuel the movements in some of them to completely free themselves from US control.

Allies' Distrust

Even Washington's allies in Western Europe and Japan have expressed either opposition to or reservations about the invasion. West European countries are concerned that the United States did not properly consult them, and gave little heed to their advice before launching the invasion.

London views the special Anglo-American relationship as the foundation of its foreign policy. However, it considered the undisguised armed invasion of Grenada unwise, and the excuses offered lame and self-contradictory. Speaking on the BBC World Service, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said that if outside intervention such as the US-led invasion of Grenada could be justified, "then we are going to have really terrible wars in the world."

Public figures and private citizens in Britain and other West European countries have questioned the credibility of the Reagan administration, and are trying to combine the issues of the invasion with the upcoming deployment of US missiles in Western Europe. They fear the present "gunboat diplomacy" of the United States will trigger another world war. Recent British opinion polls show that 73 per cent of the people distrust President Reagan's control over the launching of cruise missiles deployed in Britain. They are concerned about the prospect of Britain becoming an unwilling victim of US-Soviet nuclear conflict.

China Seeks End to Arms Race in Space

QIAN Jiadong, China's Ambassador for Disarmament Affairs, has urged the Soviet Union and the United States to halt their arms race in outer space. He has also called for the conclusion of an agreement banning all chemical weapons.

Speaking at the First Committee of the UN General Assembly on Nov. 1, Qian said the massive buildup of outer space weaponry in recent years "irrefutably" proves that outer space has become "an important realm of the superpowers' arms race."

"The people on the planet cannot but feel grave concern" about this new threat to international peace and security, he said, and it is the "unshirkable responsibility" of the Soviet Union and the United States to prevent the outer space arms race.

He reaffirmed China's support for a ban on all outer space weaponry and for the basic principle that outer space should be reserved "exclusively for peaceful purposes." China also supports the principle that military satellites should be prohibited or restricted, but Qian said such a ban "is rather a complicated question" because military satellites, besides serving hostile purposes, can be used to monitor disarmament agreements and provide warning of surprise attacks.

He agreed that the Special Committee on Disarmament should set up a working group to negotiate the prohibition of outer space weaponry and to draw up the relevant international legal documents. China hopes, he said, that "a ban on anti-satellite weaponry can be taken as a first step."

On the question of Chemical weapons, Qian said "speedy negotiations" are urgently needed to conclude a convention under which such weapons would be prohibited and existing supplies destroyed. This has become crucial, he said, as the superpowers step up their search for deadlier chemicals. He called the reports coming in from time to time on the use of these weapons in certain battle zones "particularly worrying."

Qian said China will continue to take an active part in these negotiations "in the hope of concluding the convention as soon as possible so as to eliminate these savage, lethal weapons from our planet once and for all."

The invasion of Grenada has also sparked sharp debate, not only in the US Senate and House of Representatives, but among ordinary people in the United States. American have taken to

the streets to demonstrate for or against the invasion. Many people in the country are concerned over whether the armed invasion of Grenada was a dress rehearsal for still bigger opera-

tions to come. They fear the administration will involve them in a third and fourth civil war, in El Salvador and Nicaragua, after the country has already sunk itself in the civil wars in Grenada and Lebanon. Fear of war has increased in people's minds, and confidence in the government's foreign policy has declined.

The Message

The US military intervention in Grenada has sent out a signal, or, as US Secretary of State George Shultz said, "Those who want to receive a message will have to receive it." In fact, the United States has pressed Central American countries to draw a "lesson" from Grenada. US Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam warned, "The nine commandantes of Nicaragua might also wish to ponder their relationship with their Soviet and Cuban mentors." As a result, Nicaragua's leaders have called on their people to fulfil the tasks required by the current situation and strengthen their national defence.

However, there is also a message from Washington, namely that the entire venture in Grenada has been a political and moral disaster for the United States. It must pay for its actions dearly for a long time in the future. Although the influence of the Soviet Union and Cuba in Latin American countries has been somewhat reduced following the US invasion of Grenada, they will certainly try to take advantage of the United States' psychological defeat to build up their forces and strengthen their positions in Latin America and elsewhere.

— "Beijing Review" News Analyst Ren Wenhui

Nuclear-free zone still up in the air

TWENTY years ago Urho Kaleva Kekkonen, then President of Finland, proposed the declaration of a North European nuclear-free zone. A similar proposal was put forward again in June this year by Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme. Now, in the past month, the anti-nuclear peace movement sweeping Europe has issued yet another appeal for such a zone

The Scandinavian governments and people are in complete agreement on the principle of a nuclear-free zone, but they differ on its details and on how to establish it.

Three Propositions

There are three positions. One is the Finnish proposal made by Kekkonen, which states that Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Finland should unilaterally declare their countries a nuclear-free zone and pledge not to manufacture any nuclear weapons, whether in times of peace or war. This proposal also asks the United States and the Soviet Union to unilaterally pledge not to transport or use nuclear weapons in this zone.

The second proposal, put forward by Sweden, wants the areas neighbouring the four countries to be made a nuclear-free buffer zone and asks the nuclear powers to pledge to guarantee the security of Northern Europe. In effect, the nuclear powers would have to remove those nuclear weapons which constitute a direct threat to the four countries.

The third proposal, by Norway and Denmark, says the establishment of a nuclear-free zone must be tied to a general reduction of nuclear arms across Europe. According to this proposal, it would be impossible to declare a nuclear-free zone unless the nuclear powers agree to reduce their arsenals. Norway also specified that this zone must include the Soviet Union's Kola Peninsula, which borders it and Finland.

At present, the four Scandinavian countries have no nuclear weapons themselves. Norway and Denmark are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), but they do not allow the deployment of nuclear arms on their territory during times of peace. The region is, in effect, already a nuclear-free zone. So why the fuss?

The reason is that Moscow and Washington have deployed large numbers of nuclear weapons in the vicinity. The Kola Peninsula is a major Soviet military centre. Seventy per cent of the Soviet strategic nuclear strike force is concentrated on it, and Severodvinsk, near Murmansk, is one of Moscow's largest naval bases. Further south, Soviet submarines, armed with nuclear missiles, patrol the Baltic Sea. And to the west, US submarines, likewise armed, cruise the Norwegian Sea, the North Sea and the North Atlantic.

Surrounded by this nuclear arsenal, the Scandinavians naturally lack a sense of security. Whenever the international situation has grown tense in the

past 20 years, discussion of a North European nuclear-free zone has been revived.

Superpowers' Attitudes

At first glance, the Soviet Union would appear to be more "positive" than the United States in relieving the nuclear tension. Earlier this year Soviet leader Yuri Andropov suggested that his country could pledge not to use nuclear weapons against the four Scandinavian countries under multilateral or bilateral agreements with each country. He said he was even ready to consider "major measures" in the Soviet territory bordering the nuclear-free zone. A Soviet general has also said a withdrawal of Soviet submarines from the Baltic Sea might be considered. However, many West European countries have their suspicions about the Soviets' true intentions.

The Western press points out that the withdrawal of Soviet nuclear submarines from the Baltic Sea would not mean that the Baltic would be a nuclear-free zone. Besides having a great number of tactical nuclear weapons on the sea, Moscow would still have different types of nuclear missiles along the coast. The Western press also noted that this offer would not reduce the huge nuclear arsenal on the Kola Peninsula.

The United States is not against the principle of selected nuclear-free zones, but it regards the Soviet suggestion as a ploy, for it was proposed while the US-Soviet talks on reducing intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe were in progress.

To date, the discussions on a North European nuclear-free zone have yielded nothing con-

crete. Like other unsuccessful disarmament proposals around the world, the failure lies in the superpowers' insincerity regarding disarmament. If such a zone is to be established, the superpowers must provide guarantees to take concrete steps to eliminate the direct nuclear threat against Scandinavia. Otherwise discussions on the topic have no significance.

The real intention behind the Soviet "disarmament" proposal for Scandinavia is to bind the United States hand and foot by removing its ability to provide nuclear protection for Norway and Denmark in a future war under the terms of the NATO alliance. It is playing on Scan-

dinavians' desire for peace to sow discord between the Western alliance and the people of Norway and Denmark. The Kremlin could never support a proposal for a nuclear-free zone that would actually weaken its nuclear arsenal, and Washington has said it will never accept the idea of a nuclear-free zone that allowed the Soviet Union to maintain a nuclear advantage in Northern Europe.

In these circumstances, with the Soviet Union and the United States contending for nuclear superiority in Europe, Scandinavians will find it difficult to realize their desire for a nuclear-free zone.

—Liu Xumin

Argentina

Civilian rule returns after 7 years

THE general election held in Argentina last month was the first since the military regime ousted President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, widow of Juan Peron, in 1976. The victorious candidate, President-elect Raul Alfonsin of the Radical Civic Union (UCR), formed a new cabinet on Nov. 8, which will restore civilian rule when he is inaugurated on Dec. 10.

The UCR victory, its biggest since 1928, took many by surprise. According to the final count in the Argentine press, the UCR won about 7.7 million votes, or 51.8 per cent of the total, while the Justicialist (Peronist) Party took about 5.9 million, or 40.1 per cent. Three hundred and seventeen UCR members were elected to the 600-member electoral college, ensuring Alfonsin's presidency.

The UCR victory shows that the Argentine people are looking for a change. During the seven years of military rule, the country slid further and further into social and economic crises. Since the defeat by Britain in the 1982 Malvinas war, the economy has deteriorated markedly. Commodity prices tripled and the foreign debt has reached US\$40,000 million. Unemployment has soared to 1 million out of a total population of 27 million. The people are dissatisfied with the deepening economic crisis and with sagging industrial and agricultural production. Everyone is calling for social reform.

Alfonsin, riding on this tide of popular sentiment, came up with the slogan, "reform and change," winning support not only from his own party but from the masses, particularly

the 5 million youths who make up one-third of the electorate and who were voting for the first time.

The Justicialists, the other major party, also offered a popular platform, with an emphasis on an independent foreign policy, national unity, economic recovery and military reform. However, since the death of founder Juan Peron in 1974, followed by the military takeover and imprisonment and exile of Maria E. de Peron, they have not had strong leadership. During the recent election, they fell back on recounting the deeds of past leaders and repeating worn-out slogans and promises.

They were dealt a heavy blow when Alfonsin, capitalizing on the people's aversion to the military regime, charged that an accord had been reached between trade union leaders, who have ties with the Justicialists, and the military. The Justicialists, not recognizing the seriousness of the accusation, failed to make a timely response.

Also, the party was split by internal differences during the election campaign and made mistakes which hurt its image before the voters. For instance, its candidate lost the governorship race for Buenos Aires Province, which has one-third of the country's voters and was a traditional base of support for the party.

The election, which heralds a new phase of development for Argentina, is certain to speed up "democratization" in South America. But, what with the turbulent situation abroad and complicated contradictions at home, severe trials lie ahead for the new President and his civilian government.

—Zhong Tai

Sino-Soviet Relations in the Early 1950s

The following is the excerpt of the first part of an article written by Comrade Wu Xiuquan entitled "Eight Years In the Foreign Ministry." The author is now Member of the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Commission of the Chinese Communist Party and President of the Beijing World Strategy Society — Ed.

IN December 1949, my appointment as Director of the Department of Soviet and East European Affairs in the Chinese Foreign Ministry was approved at the 11th Council Meeting of the Central People's Government Administration Council. The list of all the newly appointed officials was published in the December 18 issue of *Renmin Ribao*.

Since my return from the Soviet Union in 1931, I had been in the army for nearly 20 years. I had gone through the Second and Third Civil Revolutionary Wars as well as the War of Resistance Against Japan, engaged, like the other comrades, in our struggle to create a new China. Now that the flames of war had died down, military tasks began to appear less arduous. But then I was transferred to a new post and moved to the tense forefront of foreign affairs.

I arrived in Beijing in haste and immediately reported for duty to Premier Zhou. He told me that my first assignment was to accompany him to the Soviet Union to join Chairman Mao, who had already gone

there for the Sino-Soviet talks. Since I had a fairly competent knowledge of Russian, he thought I would be a help in dealing with specific matters during the talks. Pressed for time, I could not have new clothes specially made for the visit. Instead, I bought some ready-made clothes which would be good enough for the occasion. So, on January 10, 1950 I laid aside my military uniform which I had been wearing all these scores of years and put on a Western-style suit, an overcoat, and a black Caucasian fur hat. With Premier Zhou, I left Beijing for the Soviet Union.

This was the first time we had most important official, diplomatic talks with the Soviet Union since the founding of the People's Republic of China. Not only would a series of major problems between China and the Soviet Union be discussed and decisions on them made, the outcome of the talks would also greatly affect world affairs, particularly the affairs in the Far East. That was why we sent such a large delegation which I had been asked to join in my capacity as Director of the Department of Soviet and East European Affairs.

Chairman Mao arrived in Moscow on December 16, 1949, and the delegation led by Premier Zhou arrived on January 20, 1950. A wide gap in time indeed. But why? And why was it left to Premier Zhou and all of us to take part in the talks? At the time and afterwards, by

degrees I sorted things out for my own understanding

On the Eve of the First Sino-Soviet Talks

Chairman Mao's visit to the Soviet Union was his first trip abroad and it was going to be his first meeting with Comrade Stalin. Apparently, the Russians had arranged that the special train taking Chairman Mao to Moscow would arrive at 12 noon sharp. As soon as the train stopped at the platform, the Kremlin clock struck. Stalin was not there—it was never his way to receive guests upon their arrival. But almost all the top Soviet Party, government and army leaders were present, ready to greet Chairman Mao at the station.

Because the Chairman had fallen ill at one point during the journey, being unaccustomed to the severe cold, after the train's entry into Russia Molotov made sure that the welcoming ceremony at the station was simple in order to get him out of the platform as soon as possible. The formalities observed in receiving dignitaries from foreign countries were dispensed with. All Chairman Mao had to do was a quick inspection of the guard of honour, followed by the delivery of a short, pre-written speech. Then he was driven immediately to the suburban villa specially arranged for him—the same villa where Stalin stayed during World War II. At the same time, another residence had also been arranged for the Chairman in the city.

After a little rest on his day of arrival, at 6 p.m., Chairman Mao was met by all the members of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union led by Stalin, who, rushing over to shake hands with him, said with joy, "I never quite expected that you are so young, so healthy and strong!"

It was generally known that Stalin had suggested solutions to the problems in the Chinese revolution, solutions which reflected his mistaken ideas. The Chinese Communists found their own road to victory by applying Marxism with all its universal truths to their specific case, thus achieving the perfect union of theory and practice. They had done it by themselves against Stalin's will. No one could deny the fact, however, that the Chinese comrades were on the right road. Stalin himself, of course, understood this very well. So he said to the Chinese leaders, "You have won a great victory, and victors will not be censured."

In July 1949, Comrade Liu Shaoqi, representing the Chinese Communist Party, had gone to the Soviet Union to discuss with Stalin the question of the establishment of the People's Republic of China. On that occasion, Stalin expressed his regret that they had in the past inappropriately interfered in the Chinese revolution. He said, "We had been in the way of a hindrance to you, and for this I feel compunction." It was very unusual for Stalin to criticize himself like this, although the self-criticism was made in the internal talks.

Wang Ming and his followers, the "Left" dogmatists supported by the Communist International (essentially it was Stalin), had at one time attacked and inhibited

Comrade Mao Zedong and other comrades who insisted on pursuing correct ideas. Both sides had a pretty good idea of the unhappy past; therefore, Stalin seemed to be trying to make up for that by giving the Chinese delegation a grand reception. On the occasion of celebrating his birthday, which was attended by leaders of Communist Parties of many countries, Stalin made it a point to let Comrade Mao Zedong stand next to him.

New China had been founded only more than two months, and the Soviet Union's attitude was one of scepticism towards Chinese affairs, particularly towards China's guiding principles and specific policies. For example, as we had not followed, in the past, the mistaken ideas of his and those of the Communist International, Stalin suspected that China would follow the "Road of Yugoslavia."

Moreover, because the Chinese Government had included personages of some democratic parties and democrats with no party affiliations, the Soviet Union had doubts whether China would proceed along pro-British and pro-American lines. Therefore, the Soviet Union, in other considerations, took an indifferent and sceptical attitude towards us. It was only later that they talked about the signing of a friendship treaty. Chairman Mao held that since the signing of a friendship treaty involved both governments, he should ask Premier Zhou to come and be responsible for the specific work that needed to be done. He himself did not take part in the talks.

After receiving Chairman Mao's instructions and before departure, Premier Zhou said to the members of the delegation that we must develop the co-

operation between China and the Soviet Union one stage further. This would give our foreign affairs a new look and provide us with better conditions in our efforts to deal with imperialism. On the way to Moscow, he telephoned Chairman Mao and exchanged views with him on matters concerning the Sino-Soviet treaty. On the train, I was asked to translate into Russian beforehand the speech he was going to deliver upon arrival at the railway station. All of us were very tired because of the long journey, but Premier Zhou was still working, making all the necessary preparations for the visit.

As Chairman Mao had not been involved in public activities for a period of time since his arrival, the Soviet Union made known, through an interview by the TASS, what he planned to do in Russia. His main object, it became clear to the Russians, was the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Alliance. The Soviet press also released news about his visit to Leningrad. He had returned from Leningrad when Premier Zhou and his party arrived at Moscow.

Signing of the "Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance"

Because Chairman Mao did not take part in the talks directly, Premier Zhou in his capacity as the Foreign Minister talked with Vyshinsky, his Soviet counterpart. Comrades Wang Jiaxiang, Li Fuchun and Ye Jizhuang also participated in the talks. Comrade Shi Zhe was the interpreter. Together with some other comrades, I prepared all kinds of documents and reference materials for the talks before the treaty was signed.

The draft of the treaty was worked out by the Soviet side. Although there were no changes in matters concerning principles, in the treaty signed later, there had been much revision in the wording. That was the work led and done by Premier Zhou himself. He passed on the draft to members of the Chinese delegation and the embassy and urged them to study, deliberate and revise it item by item, sentence by sentence and word by word. He wanted them to use their brains and make their contribution. He himself was especially serious as he considered carefully every single word. This was his consistent working style with the interest of the state uppermost on his mind, and he wanted to make sure there was not any catch in the draft which might later put us at a disadvantage. He said that the treaty should be all right not only now but also in the future, and that it should be able to pass the test of time and examination by posterity.

The substance of the treaty with all its specifics, was condensed into a text of under 1,000 words, but every word had been repeatedly considered. Every comrade, especially Premier Zhou, had given it full attention. For instance, one of the clauses read: "In the event that one of the contracting parties was invaded by a third state, the other contracting party shall render assistance." Premier Zhou felt that this was not firm enough and that it did not truly reflect the effectiveness of the treaty. After much deliberation, he added after "shall render assistance" the phrase "by all the means at its disposal." This was more affirmative and clear-cut. The phrase he added was later discussed and disputed for quite some time.

I did my share of the translation of the treaty and put forward some opinions on technical terms. Two copies of the official text were to be made, in the Chinese and Russian languages. Comrade Lai Yali and I went to the Soviet Foreign Languages Printing House to give the typesetters help in making sure that every word in the printed text was correct. The Soviet typesetters were really skilled in getting the Chinese letters though they did not understand any Chinese.

On February 14, 1950, the "Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance Between the People's Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" was officially signed, and a grand signing ceremony was held in the Kremlin with Stalin, Molotov, Voroshilov and other Soviet leaders present for the Soviet side, and Chairman Mao, Wang Jiaxiang, etc., as their Chinese counterparts. Premier Zhou, on behalf of the People's Republic of China, and Vyshinsky, on behalf of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed the treaty.

The Agreement on Chinese Changchun Railway, Lushun (Port Arthur) and Dalian (Dairen) Between the People's Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was signed at the same time. Forced by tsarist Russia, the Chinese Qing Government had "agreed" that Russia would be allowed to build, run and lease the Changchun Railway, Lushun and Dalian; this was one of the results of the carving up of China by the imperialist powers.

Since the establishment of New China, the Changchun Railway had been managed mainly by the Soviet Union with China as

a participating partner. The Soviet army stationed in Lushun and Dalian had built up military installations there. According to the new agreement, the Soviet Union should hand over the management of the Chinese Changchun Railway, the Soviet army base in Lushun and Dalian as well as other installations to the Government of the People's Republic of China. However, in view of the then Far East and world situation, both sides agreed to carry on as usual before the end of 1952, by which, it was thought, peace treaties with Japan would have been signed.

The second agreement signed was the Agreement Between China and the Soviet Union Concerning the Granting of Credit to the People's Republic of China. In accordance with this agreement, the Soviet Union would grant to China a credit totalling US \$300 million with one per cent interest per annum. China could use the credit to purchase machinery and other equipment for construction, and would repay the credit and interest by deliveries of raw materials, tea, gold and US dollars within 10 years, that is, before the end of 1963.

In addition to these two agreements, both sides agreed that the property the Soviet Union had acquired in northeast China from Japan and the buildings of the former military stations in Beijing (left by tsarist Russia) should be handed over without compensation to the Government of China. These agreements, which were vital to safeguarding China's independence and sovereignty and to promoting its economic construction, were also signed by Premier Zhou and Vyshinsky on behalf of both governments.

Following the signing of the afore-mentioned documents, both countries announced in a joint statement that the respective treaty and agreements concluded in August 1945 between the Soviet Union and the Kuomintang Government were null and void.

Regarding the issue of the Chinese Changchun Railway, Japan had, in fact, paid the Soviet Union some money for the use of the railway during the former's occupation of northeast China. After the entry of the Soviet army into northeast China and Japan's subsequent surrender, the Soviet Union regained the right to manage the railway.

Now that the new Chinese Government had been established, the Soviet Union ought to hand over unreservedly the right to China. But the Soviet side demanded it should share with China the right and interest of the Chinese Changchun Railway for a certain period, the simple reason being that it was much more convenient for the Russians to use the Chinese railway to Vladivostok than its Far East railway. In this way the Soviet Union, in fact, had gained more advantages. As China still lacked managerial and technological expertise, it would be of benefit to us to have the Changchun Railway managed and used by both sides for the time being. Therefore, we agreed to let the Soviet Union share the use of the railway.

The agreement also stipulated that the Soviet Union should hand over without compensation to China a number of factories, mines and machinery they had acquired from Japan in northeast China. However, they took home with them almost all the machinery and materials that could be dismant-

led and removed. In the Anshan Iron and Steel Complex, Shenyang Arsenal and Xiao Fengman Hydroelectric Power Station, only some empty buildings had been handed over "without compensation." Even the pianos, sofas and fine furniture of the Japanese high-ranking officials and army officers had all been taken to the Soviet Union, not to mention the large quantities of captured goods and materials.

This naturally lowered their esteem in our eyes, as it revealed their pursuit of self-interest. Their words, indeed, did not match their deeds. But we took an overall view of the whole situation and never argued with them on these specific points. Stalin and the other leaders of the Soviet Communist Party were fairly warm towards us and they would be a source of help for us in our national construction.

After the signing ceremony, the Chinese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Wang Jiaxiang and his wife held, on behalf of the Chinese Government, a big cocktail party in celebration of the signing of the Sino-Soviet treaty and the successful visit to the Soviet Union of Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou. More than 500 people attended the party, including Stalin and other top leaders of the Soviet Party, government and army, namely, Shvernik, Molotov, Malenkov, Voroshilov, Mikoyan, Kaganovich, Bulganin, Khrushchev and Budenny. Attending the party were also ministers, representatives of various circles in Moscow as well as diplomatic envoys of foreign countries. Chairman Mao, Premier Zhou and Wang Jiaxiang and his wife greeted and received the guests, and all the members of the Chinese delegation were present.

On February 16, a grand banquet was held in the Kremlin by the Soviet Government in honour of Chairman Mao, Premier Zhou and all the members of our delegation. Nearly all the leading members of the Soviet Party, government and army were present.

On both occasions, Stalin was in high spirits and joked with the guests. When Comrade Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese leader who was in Moscow at the time, asked Stalin at the dinner party if he had any instructions for him, the latter said jokingly: "How could I instruct you, You are President—a rank higher than I!" Ho replied in the same spirit, "You have concluded a treaty with the Chinese comrades, why not conclude a treaty with us when I am here!" Because Ho's visit to the Soviet Union was shrouded in secrecy, Stalin said, "But then people may ask how you have managed to turn up here so accidentally." Ho said: "You can put me on an airplane for a flight which takes one round in the sky, then send some people to welcome me at the airport and release a news item. Everything will be all right!" Stalin laughed and said, "This is the peculiar imagination of you orientals." Stalin was really affable on that occasion.

When I was studying in Moscow in the 1920s, I had seen Stalin several times. He was then a little over 40; the successive domestic trouble and wars with foreign countries for several decades, especially the years of the Great Patriotic War, had consumed his energies. He was now going on 70 with white hair and drooping skin on his face; he was obviously weak and old. But the Soviet Union was evidently prosperous and developing. It

had undergone a tremendous change compared with 20 years ago when I was there. Although it had gone through great disaster, most of signs of the devastation and destruction of war had disappeared in Moscow. This demonstrated that the Soviet Union had recovered very fast and shown a very good economic development.

In addition, personality cult towards Stalin had appeared for decades not only in the Soviet Union and its Party, but also in the International Communist Movement and among progressives the world over. He was almost at the height of power and prestige. Therefore, although Stalin had entered the age of 70, he was still complacent and at ease, and he paid much attention to his own health and safety. He always maintained his peculiar demeanour and manner with clear enunciation and precise wording whenever he spoke. He was also fairly modest and amiable.

At the dinner parties, Stalin used to drink the bottle of wine specially prepared for him. He would not drink the wine poured for him by other people, nor would he pour his wine for others. It was probably for the sake of safety that he drank his own wine. The Soviet leaders all showed their great respect to him. He was fairly respectful and polite to Comrades Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and the other Chinese comrades. His concern and support for China was apparently sincere.

Yugoslavia's persistence in its own independent stand in 1948, which was not in keeping with Stalin's designs, had infuriated him. Accordingly, a resolution was adopted at the COMINFORM to expel Yugoslavia from the organization, and the Soviet Union

suspended its normal diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia. This was entirely wrong on the part of Stalin. But he was still worried that China might also follow the road of Yugoslavia and become independent from him.

In that matter, the Soviet side was too sensitive and vigilant. Through the Sino-Soviet talks, including several secret talks and contacts between our Party and the leaders of the Soviet Communist Party prior to the establishment of New China, both sides found that their views on major policies were basically identical. Stalin agreed to the various policies of our Party, and no differences in principle had emerged. At the two dinner parties, each side repeatedly toasted to the health of the leaders of the other country and constantly hailed: "Long live Sino-Soviet friendship." The dinner parties lasted until midnight.

During the talks, the Soviet Union had also organized some other activities for us. As Chairman Mao did not participate in the talks directly, he went sightseeing more than we did. Molotov accompanied Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou to watch the ballet *Swan Lake*. They planned to invite us to see another ballet *Red Poppy Flower*. It was about the Chinese revolution, but in both its contents and depiction, it distorted the Chinese revolution. So leaders of the Chinese delegation did not go; only Shi Zhe and a few others went so as not to insult our hosts. We put forward our points of view later and apparently they revised the script accordingly and finally stopped performing altogether. This was an ugly spot in the record of our friendly talks. A small matter, no doubt, but it nevertheless showed that we

had upheld firmly our principles, and refused to accept anything that would disgrace our country or impinge on the interests of our people.

Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou returned to China on February 17. Li Fuchun, Ye Jizhuang and some of us remained in Moscow to continue negotiating on economic matters in order to reach some agreements.

No Plain Sailing

After Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou had gone home, we moved from the villa to a big hotel in Moscow, and continued our negotiations with the Soviet foreign trade department. These negotiations took place in the Ministry of Foreign Trade with Mikoyan as the top Soviet representative. It was no smooth sailing when our talks involved the economic interests of both countries. Differences and disputes soon arose, the comparatively striking one being how to decide on the ratio between the specific value of the Chinese Renminbi and the Soviet Rouble.

According to international practice, an index should be evened out by balancing the prices of several chief products of each side (such as the prices of cotton goods, ready-made clothes, grain, meat and other daily necessities). Then, it was hoped the ratio between both currencies could be fixed on the basis of the disparity between the indices of both countries. This was not a difficult matter, but the Soviets attempted to force upon us a surface value of the Rouble set unreasonably higher than that of the Renminbi. We expressed our disagreement, but they insisted on their stand and the talks almost got into a dead-

lock. Every one of us who participated in the negotiations was very unhappy about that. However, in view of the circumstances, we realized it was no good falling out with the Soviets. Finally, upon instructions from home, we made some concessions and compromises. The ratio was fixed, in truth, under relatively unequal conditions. From this we saw more clearly the Soviet big-nation chauvinism and national egoism. They would go as far as they could to impose their will on others in pursuit of their own interests and ignore those of other nations, even friendly countries.

It was no accident that the Soviet Union later became a superpower bent on pursuing worldwide expansionism and hegemonism. All the symptoms were there in the period of Stalin. Unpleasant things had already happened in the early 1950s. In spite of the grand display of the unbreakable friendship between China and the Soviet Union, the seeds of dissension had been sown and they were to grow and eventually drive the two countries apart.

From February to April 1950, apart from concluding the aforementioned agreements concerning the currency ratio, we also signed many other agreements. There were two agreements, for example, on establishing cable and telephone services between the two countries and on postal services including the sending of parcels and packages. Another two agreements were on the setting up of the Sino-Soviet Petroleum Company and Non-Ferrous and Rare Metal Company. Then two on the founding of the Sino-Soviet Civil Aviation Corporation and on the working conditions of Soviet experts in China. The other agreements signed included one on 1950

trade and goods exchange and a protocol concerning the Soviet Union's supplying China with industrial installations and equipment for the period 1950-52.

The signing of the Sino-Soviet treaty of alliance and of the series of agreements greatly affected domestic affairs in China; internationally, it was followed by repercussions. Imperialist countries headed by the United States promptly adopted a blockade and embargo policy towards China. Only the Soviet Union and the East European countries were willing to support and help us. During the period of co-operation between China and the Soviet Union, some Western nations spread the rumour that the northern part of China was being merged with the Soviet Union in the latter's attempt to control China. However, the publication of the contents of the treaty and the agreements showed that China was fully and independently exercising its sovereignty and that the relations between the two countries were maintained on the basis of equality.

Our talks in Moscow, with their fruitful results, properly exposed the plots of the imperialists who wanted to drive a wedge between the two countries. At the same time, the outcome of these talks brought prestige to the newborn People's Republic of China. These historical facts also demonstrate that any country which wants to maintain its own national independence, safeguard its sovereignty as well as obtain appropriate foreign aid, has to make small compromises when necessary. However, on no account should it rely solely on foreign countries, or do so at the expense of its national interests. Relations between China and the Soviet Union then was based, on the

whole, on equality and mutual benefit. But their friendship at the time was marked by contradictions and the unity did not mean the absence of conflicts. The understanding of this guided me in my work as Director of the Department of Soviet and East European Affairs.

In the Sino-Soviet "Honeymoon"

In the early period after the founding of New China, only a little more than 20 countries had established diplomatic relations with China. In the first three or four years of the 1950s, over 110 agreements and protocols related to political, economic, military, scientific, technological and cultural fields — not counting the many other documents designed for special purposes — were signed between China and the Soviet Union and the East European countries. By comparison, we signed only 20 or 30 agreements with other countries during the same period. This very fact testified to China's constant contacts and close relations with the Soviet Union and East European countries.

However, that did not mean we and the Soviet Union held identical views on all questions. Disagreement arose from time to time. For instance, the Soviet Union once unilaterally requested the expansion of the prospecting area of a Sino-Soviet petroleum company in Xinjiang. In accordance with an agreement signed between the two countries, it was China's responsibility to provide land as investment. So it would mean increased investment on our part if the area of the oilfield was to be expanded. In that case, the Soviet Union should also

(Continued on p. 30.)

Preventing Ideological Pollution

by Yue Ping

HOW to correctly treat Western theoretical and literary works is currently a vital issue in preventing ideological pollution, in the light of ever-increasing contacts between China and the rest of the world.

In recent years, while developing our economic relations with other countries we have also promoted cultural exchanges with them. This is of great importance in broadening our perspectives, enriching our knowledge and enlightening our thoughts. Those scientifically valuable principles, viewpoints and ideas contained in many Western publications are useful reference tools for us.

Lenin said, "Proletarian culture must be the logical development of the store of knowledge mankind has accumulated under the yoke of capitalist, land-owner and bureaucratic society" ("The Tasks of the Youth Leagues," 1920). We should, therefore, continue to absorb things of scientific value and those which have played positive roles in the culture of the capitalist world, in order to promote the development of our own science and culture, and enrich our cultural life.

But, at the same time, we must not neglect the negative aspects of some works. Comrade Deng Xiaoping pointed out in April last year that as we implement the policy of opening to the outside world, "the infiltration of bourgeois ideas is unavoidable." Comrade Hu Yaobang also said: "The in-

troduction of the policy of opening to the outside world has brought us many benefits and many 'germs' as well. Therefore, we should view this issue in two ways. On the one hand, we must firmly carry out this correct policy; on the other, we must resolutely boycott those decadent capitalist things, including bourgeois ideas and the bourgeois style of life."

Since the introduction of the policy of opening to the outside world, the "germs" that have made their way into China fall into two main categories. The first are publications, video tapes and films with pornographic or violent contents. Their corrosive role is obvious, and it is easy for the people to recognize them. Furthermore, they are banned by our government. The other kind appears in the form of academic and artistic works, sometimes mixed with information of scientific value. The fact is that the latter has caused more serious decay.

In recent years, some people have been introducing foreign bourgeois ideas, viewpoints and theories, and have indiscriminately imported literary works steeped with decadent thoughts. This has resulted in the spread of liberalism. We also lack appropriate analyses and strong criticism of the Western academic and literary works which have been translated and published in China. This has confused many people, particularly our young readers, when they try to judge which ideas are valuable and beneficial and which are rotten and harmful. This also constitutes an impor-

tant factor of ideological pollution in society.

We know that with the present growing contacts between China and the outside world, bourgeois ideology may easily find ways to influence us. We must, therefore, adhere to the Marxist stand, making a thorough study and having a better understanding of bourgeois theories and viewpoints, no matter what schools of thought they belong to or what political tendencies they have. We should not take these things gullibly, nor should we praise them blindly or absorb them indiscriminately. Instead, we should analyse them carefully using the tools of Marxism.

To help the people become better able to distinguish various ideas, Comrade Mao Zedong said in 1942 in Yanan, "Our comrades must develop a good nose. . . . They should take a sniff at everything and distinguish the good from the bad before they decide whether to welcome it or boycott it." He continued, "Communists must always go into the whys and wherefores of anything, use their own heads and carefully think over whether or not it corresponds to reality and is really well founded; on no account should they follow blindly and encourage slavishness" ("Rectify the Party's Style of Work"). Today, in dealing with foreign countries, particularly their academic and literary works, we still advocate Comrade Mao's attitude.

(An abridged translation of an article published in "Guangming Ribao" on October 8)

The author is a theorist.

Nature Parks: Preserving An Irreplaceable Heritage

by Our Correspondent Li Yongzeng



VISITORS pause at the gate to a wildlife park in Australia to read the sign: "Here is the animal kingdom's greatest enemy." Their gaze shifts upward into the mirror fastened above the accusing words. A pause, and then they quickly move on.

Fifty years ago such a melodramatic device was not necessary in China. Lagging behind the Western world, its industrial revolution was yet to come. Then in 1949, with the liberation, progress arrived, and with it chimneys belching coal smoke into blue skies, factory sluices emptying into once-clear rivers, and an ever-growing and hungry populace indiscriminately clearing ancient forests in their search for arable land, China's irreplaceable natural heritage was threatened.

Fortunately the dangers were spotted early. On the advice of its scientists, the Chinese Government decided that the most effective way to protect the wild plants and animals would

be to establish a network of nature reserves. Work began in 1956, and by 1961 there were 20 full-fledged reserves and another 50 special zones closed to hunting and forestry.

The care of existing reserves and the construction of new ones was temporarily disrupted in the mid-1960s by the "cultural revolution," but by 1975 conservation work was forging ahead again. In 1979, the government issued the Forest Law and the draft Law on Environmental Protection, thereby guaranteeing the principle of natural conservation.

The number of new reserves has increased rapidly in recent years. By the end of 1982, there were 106, with a total area of 3.9 million hectares. This amount, however, makes up only a tiny 0.4 per cent of China's total land area. In most countries, reserves make up 4 per cent of the territory, and in some countries—the United States, Japan, Zaire and Kenya—the

figure is as high as or greater than 10 per cent.

In the past three years, study groups have looked at the environmental conditions of each province and autonomous region. Based on their reports, plans have been drawn up for 385 new reserves with a total area of 12.8 million hectares.

Some of the projects are currently under way and it is expected that all will be completed in 10 years, giving China a total of 491 reserves with an area of 16.7 million hectares or 1.7 per cent of its land area. The new reserves will be of greater variety and more widely distributed than existing ones.

Dangers of Extinction

It has been estimated that every time a plant species disappears, 20 animal species dependent on it in one way or another will be seriously affected. In China, where only 13 per cent of its total area is forest, the problem is crucial. Natural foes—fire and pests—take their toll of the greenery, but wanton timbering and clearing for cultivation have exacted greater damage.

On Hainan Island off the south coast, there were 867,000 hectares of tropical forests in the early years of the People's Republic; today only 247,000 hectares remain. At Xishuang Banna in Yunnan Province, there were 600,000 hectares of subtropical forests; only 400,000 hectares are still standing.

In a world where the primeval forest has been halved in the past century, the number of animals wiped out or on the verge of extinction has soared alarmingly. About 1,000 species have disappeared in the



A Yangtze River crocodile and its eggs.

past 200 years. In the 19th century and earlier, the rate of extinction for larger animals was one every four years. This has climbed to one species a year in the present century. The damage to plants is even more serious; each year about 200 species are doomed to extinction.

The rhinoceros, saiga (a large antelope), Xinjiang tiger and crested shelduck are no longer found in China. Many people are worried that other endangered species may also disappear, particularly the giant panda and the crested ibis.

The playful giant panda, known around the world by its distinct black and white markings, was first discovered in 1869 in Baoxing, Sichuan Province. At one time, pandas could be found in many parts of China, but their range is limited today to Sichuan (the Qionglai, Liangshan and Minshan Mountains) and southern Shaanxi Province (the Qinling Mountains).

There are only an estimated 1,000 giant pandas left in the world and the number is ex-

pected to decline, even without the pernicious help of man. In recent years, fewer giant pandas have been spotted and those that were have mostly been adults. Of the 16 pandas seen at the Foping Nature Reserve in Shaanxi in the past six months, only two were cubs.

One reason for the decline is the species' low reproductive rate. Pandas' special reproductive organs make mating difficult and result in a high number of faulty pregnancies and infant deaths. Also, inbreeding among a diminishing number of adults has led to the inheritance of genetic defects.

Another reason is the panda's reliance on a few varieties of bamboo for its diet. Bamboo blossoms in cycles and then dies, often over large tracts, resulting in starvation for the slow-moving panda, which usually confines itself to a range of two square kilometres. The widespread withering of *jianzhu* bamboo in the northern Minshan Mountains in 1974 led to the deaths of 138 pandas over two years, later investigations showed.

This year another cycle of withering threatened to kill off pandas, but emergency measures taken by the Ministry of Forestry under a "save-the-panda" programme alleviated the situation. The programme's three strategies were:

- Put out fodder and a supplementary diet in afflicted areas.

- Capture starving pandas and raise them on game reserves.

- Transfer starving pandas to areas with abundant *jianzhu* that is not expected to blossom for many years.

The latest development is "panda farms," the first of which was recently completed on the Wolong Nature Reserve in Sichuan with the help of the World Wildlife Fund. There are plans for four more and for a research project to develop and cultivate new strains of *jianzhu*.

Planning and quick action by the authorities have also helped the crested ibis, one of the rarest birds in the world. This beautiful species was not seen in China for 17 years until zoologists found seven of them nesting in two oak trees in Yangxian County, Shaanxi, in 1981.

Guards were immediately assigned to scare away golden cats and leopard cats, which feed on the birds, and the local peasants were persuaded not to use chemical pesticides or fertilizers on nearby fields. Two thousand hectares of rice paddies were designated protected feeding areas, and a few lucky people could watch the birds, which are the size of geese, with pink wings and bright red heads, foraging against the green background.

Again, conservation efforts paid off. According to the

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"The tall buildings of the ministry had become barriers between myself and my goal," he recalls. "I knew that if I wanted to achieve something, I had to get out of the office and into the forests, out to where the animals were."

His first request for a transfer was turned down by the ministry leaders, who were reluctant to give up the promising young man. Zhao persevered, however, and several requests later they gave in and offered him a transfer to Jilin Province, where work was to begin on the newly created Changbai Mountain Nature Reserve.

To Zhao, it sounded like paradise. Situated on the border between China and Korea, the Changbai Mountain had long been cut off from the rest of the world owing to primitive communications and transport, and its forests were virtually untouched. The region had been formed by volcanic eruptions, the last one in 1702, which left a widely varying topography of peaks and plateaus, valleys, marshes, forests and grassland. This, Zhao knew as a scientist, also meant a cor-



Giant panda eating bamboo and (insert) climbing up a tree on the Wolong Nature Reserve in Sichuan.

Ministry of Forestry, the number of wild crested ibises in China has risen to 13.

A Park Pioneer

One scientist who has seen the reserve network grow from the early days is Zhao Zhengjie, senior engineer and deputy head of the Changbai Mountain Nature Reserve. In many ways his story is typical of the scientists dedicated to conservation.

Recognized today as one of China's leading zoologists and bird specialists, Zhao first attracted international attention with the publication of *An Ecological Study of the Changbai Mountain Hazel Grouse* in 1977. Since then, and dozens of papers later, scholars around the world have acknowledged his immeasurable contributions to the scientific world.

The path to success, however, has not been easy. Zhao's first disappointment came immediately after graduating from Sichuan University in 1959. The energetic young zoologist, eager

to expand the world's store of natural knowledge, was assigned to an indoors job at the Ministry of Forestry in Beijing. By most people's standards his position was ideal, with comfortable living conditions and first-rate research facilities. But to Zhao, worried that his dream of accomplishing valuable field work would come to nothing, it meant frustration.



A crested ibis found in Yangxian County, Shaanxi Province.



The Bayanbulak reserve for swans in Xinjiang.

responding diversity of plants and animals. (In fact, the area was nicknamed the "treasure house of species.") He couldn't refuse the opportunity; the work of a lifetime was waiting.

His leaders and some well-wishing colleagues reminded him that life in the north would be difficult, and urged him to think over his decision carefully. Zhao remembers their warnings: "Don't go. Do you think you, a southerner, can stand the hardships? The peasants up there subsist on dried corn, and it's so cold your ears will freeze off."

One friend, thinking of the isolation Zhao would face, saw another cause for concern: "You won't be able to find a wife there."

Thanking them for their advice, which he ignored, Zhao left Beijing, and after a short delay in Changchun, where the local forestry department tried to recruit his services, he arriv-

ed in the mountains in March 1962. There he learnt that his colleagues had been right. There were no garlands or applause awaiting him: just snowdrifts and Siberian temperatures. Too cold to walk or even hold chopsticks, Zhao spent the first week bundled up beside the fire trying to stay warm. Gradually, however, the natural beauty, the fresh air and quiet life drew his mind off the hardships and he set about his work.

His first task was to help prepare a Chinese fauna—a comprehensive list of the animals found in China, classified into families, species and subspecies. China had relied till then on an incomplete fauna compiled by foreign scientists and using non-Chinese names. It was Zhao's job, together with Chinese zoologists elsewhere, to turn the situation around.

To do this, he spent his days in the wild, observing the wild animals and their behaviour.

There are many stories about him during these years tracking wild boars through pine forests and tall grass, or measuring the pawprints of a bear with home-made tools. More than once he had to hurry off to a peasant's house to study a freshly caught fish before it ended up on the dinner table.

All this was done in harsh conditions with little technical equipment. Often Zhao had to write to friends in Beijing, asking them to send books and materials. Specialized tools were usually improvised on the spot. But with efforts and determination, progress was made.

Then in 1966, the work of Zhao and many of his colleagues across the country was disrupted by the "cultural revolution." New leaders, influenced by anti-intellectual "Left" ideas, dismantled the reserve administrative bureaus, transferring scientists and technical personnel to other jobs and redistributing their equipment and materials. Local peasants, with no one to stop them, hunted and felled trees wantonly throughout the nation's parks, which now were reserves in name only.

In Jilin, the authorities decided that Zhao's family background was unsuitable for someone holding a responsible position and they tried to transfer him to another post. He refused to leave, however, and took up work as a forest ranger instead.

This turned out to be a blessing in disguise, as he could continue his wildlife observation while doing his daily work. With the encouragement of a few friends and colleagues, he slowly collected data and in 1971 published his first two pa-

WILDLIFE FACTS AND FIGURES

■ China has over 2,100 species of terrestrial vertebrates, more than any other nation in the world. About 150 are unique to this country, among them the giant panda, the red-crowned crane and the Yangtze River crocodile.

■ Of the 15 species of cranes in the world, China has nine.

■ Of the more than 270 species of pheasants in the world, China has 56, including 19 only found here

■ About 120 of China's wild animals are considered of economic value, including the musk deer, muntjac, red deer, roe deer and Mongolian gazelle.

■ China has more than 30,000 species of plants in the higher orders. Two hundred of these are found only in China, such as the golden larch (*Pseudolarix kaemferi*) and the *Cathaya argyrophylla*. Others, such as the camphor laurel and nanmu, are valued for their hardwoods and oils

■ A careful observer can spot the ancestors of our common domesticated plants: wild rice, wild walnuts and wild apples

■ Of the more than 700 species in the world listed as endangered and needing protection, over 100 are in China. Nearly two dozen are near extinction, including the giant panda, crested ibis, red-crowned crane, white crane, the Yangtze River crocodile and the Yangtze River dolphin.

pers in *Zoology*, a Beijing publication.

In 1973, the reserve administrative bureaus were reorganized after the State Council realized the extent of the disaster and began again to enforce the protection of rare species. But Zhao's troubles were not over. In the middle of an important study of nesting Daurian red-

starts, he was accused of following the bourgeois road and lusting after personal fame and privilege, and was suddenly assigned to a house-repair crew. Even then he managed to keep up his observation of the redstarts, but when spiteful leaders assigned him to a distant highway construction site, he feared his project had come to a halt.

Today tears come to his eyes as he remembers how his wife took up his cause: "You tell me the methods and I'll carry on the study." His colleagues helped as well, and not long afterwards Zhao's ordeal resulted in a well-received 10,000-word article.

Ironically, he came by chance across more redstart nests near the highway construction site and was able to carry out joint observation himself.

In recent years Zhao has done important studies of the mandarin duck and the Chinese merganser. Traditionally the Chinese have believed the mandarin duck to be a loyal and affectionate mate, but Zhao and his colleagues, after watching the species closely for two years, found that the colourful males quickly desert their females soon after the eggs are laid and that if one partner dies, another is quickly found. His study of the rare Chinese merganser discovered for the first time that the species lives in holes in trees. The young leap from the nests, usually a dozen metres above the ground, into the water after only two days after hatching. His work was widely praised in academic circles.

But even with success, the work isn't over. Zhao refuses to rest on his laurels, even though he is no longer a young man, and each day takes the now reticent and serious scien-

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tist back to where it all started — the forest.

A Living Museum

Since 1873, scientists from the West had flocked to the beautiful Wuyi Mountains in southeastern Fujian Province to study this "living biological museum," sending back collections of exotic plants, birds, insects and reptiles to London, Berlin, New York and Hawaii.

During this time, they and Chinese scientists have discovered more than 600 new varieties of plants and animals in the region. According to the latest count, there were 1,715 species of plants (subtropical, temperate, and frigid-temperate), including more than 50 rarities and 42 mutations. Thirty-one of the 32 orders of insects in China are found here, along with 61 of the 160 orders of reptiles.

To protect this biological marvel, the Chinese Government built a 57,000-hectare reserve, which opened in 1979. During its construction, the planners had to decide how to resolve a problem that often crops up when creating a park: namely, how to have the local peasants follow the principles of natural conservation without them suffering a decline in their standard of living. In this case, they tackled it with a programme of re-education and economic reorganization.

About 2,000 peasants, or 3 per square kilometre, were living within the reserve in 41 villages. They had traditionally earned much of their income from cutting trees and bamboo, often from the large tracts of primeval forest. Although the population was not high, relatively speaking, it was still



Gulzhou Chinese hemlock (*Tsuga chinensis*), a rare species found only in China.

enough to threaten the delicate balance of the ecology.

The first step taken was to close the three lumbering camps within the reserve. The peasants were then asked only to collect fallen branches and rotten trees within designated areas.

The next step was to improve alternative means of employment. The Tongmu production brigade, for instance, was shown how to increase the yield from its existing tea plantation by 40 per cent. Also, by learning to process the bamboo it cut, the brigade quadrupled its income from that source while reducing the amount it had to cut by 40 per cent. Another 30 people were hired as part-time forest rangers.

Through these means and others, per-capita income in the brigade rose nearly 80 per cent from 1979 to 1982.

Park authorities have shown films and photo displays, explaining the purpose and methods of environmental protection to the people living in or near the reserve. The peasants have especially taken to the films, which are rare events in their little corner of the world. More than 200 signs and stone markers have been erected describing natural features and conservation efforts.

Regulations have been tightened, and violations are strictly punished. Anyone entering the reserve must first obtain a permit and must obey park

rules.

Thanks to this campaign, it has been shown that damage to the environment can be halted without hurting the local residents' income. As one peasant said: "We are all for protecting the forests this way."

International Ties

In recent years, China has increased its ties with international conservation organizations, joining the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (which prohibits, among other things, trade in ivory, furs, meat and eggs of rare animals).

The Chinese Society of Environmental Sciences has reached an agreement with the World Wildlife Fund on co-operation to protect wild animals and plants. Under the

agreement, the Wolong, Changbai Mountain and Dinghu Mountain reserves are incorporated into an international network of similar wildlife parks.

But China's conservation work is not over yet. One serious problem remains—erosion, which destroys the habitat of wild animals as well as hurting man himself. Indiscriminate grazing and clearing have resulted in serious erosion of about 1.5 million square kilometres of land, with an average of 14 million tons of top soil washed away every day. In 1949, there were 107 million hectares of desert in China; this has risen to 127 million hectares. (In the entire world, desert areas are growing at a rate of 6 million hectares a year.)

To stop this and other problems requires adequate measures undertaken by skilled people. Unfortunately only 10 per cent of the 3,800 personnel working directly on the reserves have had college or vocational training. (The Northeast Forestry Institute, which is near several reserves, offers only one wildlife course.) Training of qualified staff has become a priority, with the government moving to increase education opportunities.

But the work cannot be left entirely to the specialists. Conservation is the responsibility of us all. The environment will stay cleaner, the animals will live longer, the plant life will thrive, only if everyone remembers to do his share and not leave the burden to his neighbour. As the 1982 Constitution says: "Mineral resources, waters, forests, mountains, grassland, unreclaimed land, beaches and other natural resources are owned by the state, that is, by the whole people." □

FILM

'Long Live Youth'

The character of the people and general mood of China during the early liberation years are shown through the lives of six Beijing middle school girls in a new film, *Long Live Youth*, adapted from a novel by famous modern writer Wang Meng.

The film's directors have used a series of separate scenes to reveal the girls' joy and excitement, their worries and pains, and their friendship for each other, praising their positive attitude towards life.

In one scene, the girls search their pockets for money and buy a handful of candies in a new state-run store. They are poor, but as they stand in front of the counter, they feel that all the wealth of the People's Republic is theirs. They shout joyfully one after another, "All stores are mine. . . . Streets are mine. . . . Cities and villages. . . . Factories and mines. . . .

Everything!" Proud to be masters of the country, they are full of hopes and desires.

In another scene the central character, Yang Qiangyun, reads to her comrades at a bonfire party with deep emotion, "Come all the days, come in various ways, we will weave you all with our golden threads of youth and happiness. . . ." In their hearts, New China is as fine as a poem and as lovely as a flower blossom.

But their joy is tempered by the sorrows of the past. Hu Mali, who grew up in an orphanage and was adopted by a Catholic nun, is lonely and full of fears. Su Ning, born into a capitalist family and raped by a Kuomintang officer before liberation, becomes withdrawn and silent, keeping her wounds deep in her heart.

Every Party and Youth League member in their class takes it as a duty to help these girls, and unite to advance with the class and the motherland. Their friendship is sincere and

selfless. When Su Ning falls ill, Yang Qiangyun calls on her repeatedly. But Su's wounded heart cannot withstand the deep pain she feels, and she goes to the moat of the Palace Museum to end her life. Yang finds her, and tells her, "I understand your pains and sorrows, but all these are nothing. We should attribute them to the old society. Today, we can live a better, happier life than others." Su's suffering heart is warmed by these tender words.

Lonely Hu Mali also feels the warmth of the class. During holidays, her classmates send her cakes, the first she has ever tasted. Seeing her worn-out clothes, they give her their own new dresses and skirts. And when she injures her arm at a sports meet, they are there to help. Her loneliness melts away, and she finally joins her classmates.

The film ends when the girls, on a truck, encounter a group of boys from another school cycling against the wind, shouting to each other, "See you at the meeting to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the founding of New China. . . . See you at the meeting to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of New China. . . . See you at the 30th!"

The nostalgic film reflects the youth of people now aged between 40 and 50. It recalls a golden era of a society full of purity, warmth and honesty.

But young people today also find it inspiring, despite the 30-year gap. Like the students in the film, they have their own hopes and dreams, and can understand their emotions. They are also full of curiosity



Su Ning (left) and Yang Qiangyun promise to be good friends.

about what life was like just after liberation.

The film, produced by the Shanghai Film Studio, is based on Wang's first novel, which he wrote in 1953 when he was 19. It took so long to come to the screen because its author was accused of being bourgeois.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Bring on the empty horses

The skeletons of 92 horses, poisoned and buried 2,500 years ago as a sacrifice to their dead master, have gone on display at Linzi, in east China's Shandong Province.

Archaeologists believe the battle horses were buried around the tomb of a noble of the ancient state of Qi, one of the five big powers during the Spring and Autumn period (770-476 B.C.), whose capital was Linzi.

The skeletons were found lying in two rows 215 metres long, in a U-shaped ditch surrounding the tomb. Archaeologists believe the crypt was opened long ago, since all its burial accessories are missing. It is impossible to identify the occupant of the tomb at present.

The burial site was first excavated in 1964, when the skeletons of 145 horses were discovered in a section of the north ditch. The ditch was later refilled to protect the bones.

A second dig in 1972 discovered 84 more of the sacrificed horses. Archaeologists said the tight array of the skeletons indicates that the trench may have contained as many as 600 horses.

An exhibition hall has just been completed at the site.

Ancient cliff carving

China's archaeologists have discovered an ancient cliff carving inscribed with Taoist teachings at Kunyu Mount in Shan-

dong Province. They believe it was carved before the Jin Dynasty (1115-1234).

A giant sickle-shaped stone, 16 metres long and six metres high, at the peak of the mount is inscribed with the *Dao De Jing* (The Classic of the Way and Its Power), written by Lao Tse, a philosopher of the Spring and Autumn Period and the founder of Taoism. There are more than 7,000 Chinese characters. Though some are barely recognizable, the carved ancient writing is still magnificent.

Kunyu Mount was one of the three mountains where Taoism was first taught. Historical records said that the Taoist priest Wang Chongyang went there from Shaanxi Province during the late Jin Dynasty and trained seven disciples. Genghis Khan (1162-1227) named one of Wang's disciples, Qiu Chuji, "God" and "National Teacher," and appointed him as the national leader of Taoism.

This type of carving is very rare in China, and is of great value.

(Continued from p. 21.)

increase its investment accordingly, that is, adding new equipment to the oilfield. Together with Comrade Wang Zhen, who was then in charge of the work in Xinjiang, I made this point clear to the Soviet ambassador. However, they had no intention of supplying new equipment but instead demanded that China expand the oilfield alone. This was, of course, unacceptable, and we insisted that the terms of the agreement should be strictly observed.

Once again, we were recommended a Soviet film called

Russian Traveller Prozhevalsky, which depicted how the hero "explored" China. We saw the film in its pre-view and it struck us that it showed the Chinese people in a very poor light. The officials of the Qing Government acted servilely, always trying to curry favour with the Russians, while the Russians were depicted as noble and civilized men, ready to give in charity some petty favours to the Chinese people. To us, they were imperialists pure and simple.

This film preached tsarist philosophy of expansion and

was therefore an insult for our people. So we decided not to accept it. Comrade Zhou Yang and I were sent to meet the Soviet ambassador, to tell him that this film, which hurt the feelings of the Chinese people, would be detrimental to the friendship and solidarity between our two peoples. We also notified him that the Chinese Government would not import this film. The ambassador had nothing to say about it. These were two of the many things which marred the friendship between China and the Soviet Union in the early 1950s. □

Traditional Chinese Paintings By Zhu Leshan

A native of Anji in Zhejiang Province, Zhu Leshan was born in 1902. He is now a professor at the Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts. Zhu is skilled in landscape painting and various styles of calligraphy. He also possesses a distinctive style in freehand brushwork of birds and flowers. Painted with vigorous strokes and subdued colours, his works are bold and daring, yet show a careful and unique approach.



Sunflower and Chestnuts.



Towel Gourd.



Spring Comes to My Study.

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